



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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TO: DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

FROM: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND CHECK CHANGE

On 6/2/17, the Criminal History Unit (CHU) sent out a communication to all CHU stakeholders regarding changes to the Criminal History and Background Check rules that take effect on 7/1/17. As communicated by CHU, programs under the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) are now subject to Enhanced Clearance criteria. These programs include:

- IDAPA 16.07.15 *Behavioral Health Programs*
- IDAPA 16.07.30 *Behavioral Health Community Crisis Centers*
- IDAPA 16.07.33 *Adult Mental Health Services*
- IDAPA 16.07.37 *Children's Mental Health Services*
- IDAPA 16.07.50 *Minimum Standards for Nonhospital, Medically-Monitored Detoxification/Mental Health Diversion Units*

To help prepare DBH programs that will be required to obtain the Enhanced Clearance for their staff, DBH would like to clarify how this new requirement is being implemented. The following applies to DBH Regional staff, staff employed at an approved Behavioral Health Program, Crisis Center, or Detoxification/Mental Health Diversion Unit:

- Staff with a Standard Clearance that are employed prior to 7/1/17 will not need to obtain a new Enhanced Clearance. However, if staff switch employers or at any time need a new background check within DBH programs, then they will need to obtain an Enhanced Clearance.
- Staff with a Standard Clearance that are employed prior to 7/1/17 at a program approved by DBH prior to 7/1/17 will not need to obtain a new Enhanced Clearance upon renewal of the program's approval.
- All staff hired after 7/1/17 will need to obtain an Enhanced Clearance.
 - Please note—This includes individuals that currently have a Standard Clearance. The Standard Clearance will not be transferrable and the individual will need to be required to re-apply and obtain an Enhanced Clearance when switching employers.

- Any new crisis center or program seeking approval as a Behavioral Health Program or MH/Detox after 7/1/17 will be required to have an Enhance Clearance for all staff subject to a Criminal History and Background Check.

Questions for DBH regarding these changes may be submitted to: BHIDAPAQuestions@dhw.idaho.gov

BPA Health Network Providers can submit questions to: providerrelations@bpahealth.com

Please refer to the following website to review the information distributed by the Criminal History Unit.
<https://chu.dhw.idaho.gov/> (Newsletter—CHU Newsletter Vol IV Issue 3)